WO 2005/014710 PCT/IB2004/002483

CLAIMS

- 1. A composition comprising:
 - A. 0.05 wt% to 15 wt% of an irradiated butene-1 polymer material having a melt strength greater than 1 cN and a Young's modulus of less than 1000 MPa; and
 - B. 85 wt% to 99.95 wt% of a non-irradiated butene-1 polymer material; wherein the sum of components of A and B is equal to 100 wt%.
- 2. The composition of claim 1 wherein the irradiated butene-1 polymer material is present in an amount from 0.1 wt% to 10 wt%.
- 3. The composition of claim 1 wherein the irradiated butene-1 polymer material is chosen from:
 - (a) a homopolymer of butene-1;
 - (b) copolymers or terpolymers of butene-1 with ethylene, propylene or C₅-C₁₀ alphaolefins, the comonomer content ranging from 1 mole % to 15 mole %; and;
 - (c) mixtures thereof.
- 4. The composition of claim 3 wherein the irradiated butene-1 polymer material is a homopolymer of butene-1.
- 5. An irradiated butene-1 polymer material obtained by irradiating a butene-1 polymer material chosen from:
 - (a) a homopolymer of butene-1;
 - (b) copolymers or terpolymers of butene-1 with ethylene, propylene or C₅-C₁₀ alpha-olefins, the comonomer content ranging from 1 mole % to 15 mole %; and
 - (c) mixtures thereof;
 - with high energy ionizing radiation at a total radiation dosage of 5 to 45 Mrad in an environment in which the active oxygen concentration is less than 15 % by volume, thereby forming an irradiated butene-1 polymer material; wherein the irradiated butene-1 polymer has a melt strength greater than 1 cN and Young's Modulus less than 1000 MPa.
- 6. The irradiated butene-1 polymer material of claim 5 wherein the total radiation dosage is from 10 Mrad to 36 Mrad.
- 7. The irradiated butene-1 polymer material of claim 5 wherein the polymer is a homopolymer of butene-1.

WO 2005/014710 PCT/IB2004/002483

- 8. A composition comprising:
 - C. 5 wt% to 95 wt% of an irradiated butene-1 polymer material chosen from:
 - (1) a homopolymer of butene-1;
 - (2) copolymers or terpolymers of butene-1 with ethylene, propylene or C_5 - C_{10} alpha-olefins, the comonomer content ranging from 1 mole % to 15 mole %; and
 - (3) mixtures thereof;
 having a melt strength greater than 1 cN and a Young's modulus of less than 1000
 MPa; and
 - D. 5 wt% to 95 wt% of a non-irradiated propylene polymer material; wherein the sum of components of C and D is equal to 100 wt%.
- 9. The composition of claim 8 wherein the irradiated butene-1 polymer material is present in an amount from 20 wt% to 90 wt%.
- 10. The composition of claim 8 wherein the irradiated butene-1 polymer material is a homopolymer of butene-1.
- 11. A process for nucleating a non-irradiated butene-1 polymer material comprising:
 - (1) irradiating a butene-1 polymer chosen from:
 - (a) a homopolymer of butene-1;
 - (b) copolymers or terpolymers of butene-1 with ethylene, propylene or C_5 - C_{10} alpha-olefins, the comonomer content ranging from 1 mole % to 15 mole %; and
 - (c) mixtures thereof;

with high energy ionizing radiation at a total radiation dosage of 5 to 45 Mrad, in an environment in which the active oxygen concentration is less than 15 % by volume; wherein the irradiated butene-1 polymer has a melt strength greater than 1 cN and Young's Modulus less than 1000 MPa;

- (2) treating the irradiated butene-1 polymer obtained in step (1) to deactivate substantially all free radicals present in the irradiated butene-1 polymer, thereby producing a high melt strength butene-1 polymer;
- (3) blending the high melt strength butene-1 polymer obtained in step (2) with a non-irradiated butene-1 polymer material, thereby producing a blended polymer composition; and

- (4) compounding the blended polymer composition; wherein the crystallization rate of the non-irradiated butene-1 polymer material is increased.
- 12. The process according to claim 11 wherein the total radiation dose is from 10 Mrad to 36 Mrad.
- 13. The process according to claim 11 wherein the butene-1 polymer material is a homopolymer of butene-1.